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12 November 1964.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Director of Central Intelligence
The CIA Member, USIB

SUBJECT

: NIE 22-64: THE FRENCH ADVANCED
WEAPONS PROGRAM

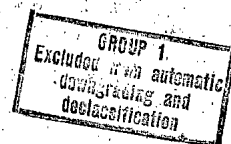
BACKGROUND

1. This estimate was initiated by the Board of National Estimates as part of the regular estimates schedule. The last estimates on this subject (NIE 22-2-63, "The French Nuclear Weapons Program," and a MEMORANDUM TO HOLDERS OF NIE 22-2-63) were dated 24 July 1963 and 8 April 1964, respectively.

SUBSTANCE

2. The only reservation is by the Department of State, which believes the estimate should not contain the statement in paragraph 27 that "French delivery systems programs could move forward on French resources alone, but this would increase the

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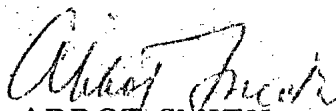
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costs and occasion some delay." The Department of State believes we should either omit this statement, or indicate how much the costs would increase and how long the resultant delays would be. The Board of National Estimates and the representatives of all other agencies believe that it would be impossible to quantify either the delays or the increase in costs in any meaningful way, but that the general statement should be made as it appears in the text. The reservation of the representative of INR appears as a footnote to paragraph 27 of the text.

FOR THE CIA MEMBER OF USIB

3. The Office of Scientific Intelligence, the Office of Research and Reports, and the Office of Current Intelligence actively assisted in the preparation of this estimate and are in general agreement with the final draft. Drafts of the estimate have also been submitted to the DD/P, and no dissenting comments have been received.

FOR THE BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES:


ABBOT SMITH
Acting Chairman

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